Military Service and the Oath in the Light of the Call to Peace

Are you hungry and thirsty for the righteousness that is lived in the Kingdom, and do you seek, above all else, His righteousness? (Matthew 6:33)

 Answer: Yes — Explanation: If you are truly hungry and thirsty for His righteousness, which is experienced in the Kingdom of God, this is a sign of genuine new birth.

Lord Jesus said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled” (Matthew 5:6). This hunger and thirst are not just passing emotions, but a deep and constant desire to live a life of righteousness in accordance with His will. The righteousness that is lived in the Kingdom is practical, visible, and manifests itself concretely through:

• Truth instead of lies – you tell the truth even when it costs you, without distorting reality.

• Honesty instead of cunning – you do not manipulate or hide your intentions, but are sincere in your speech and in your heart.

• Integrity instead of compromise – you refuse bribes, fraud, illegal work, cheating in school, or any dishonest gain.

• Moral purity instead of hidden sin – you avoid the corrupt values of the world, dirty images, and unclean thoughts, living a life of holiness.

• Justice in relationships with others – you do not cheat, exploit, or speak ill, but seek the good of your neighbor.

• Transparency instead of hypocrisy – you do not wear a religious mask, but live authentically before God and people.

• Love for what is pure and holy – you don't just run away from evil, but you love what is right, pure, and pleasing to God.

This thirst for righteousness is the sign of a regenerated heart that can no longer be satisfied with a duplicitous or superficial life. It is the work of the Holy Spirit in the born-again believer.

 Answer: No — Explanation: If you are not hungry and thirsty for the righteousness required by the Kingdom of God, then there can be no talk of a genuine new birth. As

Scripture says in 1 John 3:10: "Whoever does not live in righteousness is not from God."

Righteousness is not optional, but is the mark of those who belong to Christ.

The lack of this desire manifests itself in:

• Accepting lies as normal, whether in seemingly insignificant details or as a method of avoiding unpleasant consequences.

• Cunning and manipulation in relationships, deception to gain advantages.

• Moral and financial compromises, such as bribery or undeclared work.

• Indifference to sin and lack of a real struggle against it.

• Living a double life, with a religious face in public and a hidden life of sin. This hidden life may also include sexual impurity, uncontrolled desires, and shameful acts that defile the soul and separate it from the holiness of God. If you do not have this hunger and thirst for what is right, pure, and holy, it is a sign that your heart has not been regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

This post is an excerpt from the booklet "Are You Truly Born Again? – Biblical Questionnaire", which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.